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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Graff et al.
Serial. No. : 10/002,631 Examiner: To Be Assigned
Filed : October 31, 2001 Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned
For : METHOD TO IDENTIFY SIGNAL SEQUENCES

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.131

Professor Jonathon M. Graff residing at 3124 Milton Ave, Dallas, TX, 75205 and
Matthew R. Muenster residing at 2014 Royal Oaks Drive, Irving, TX 75060 declare as follows:

*Considered
6/21/01
JF*

1. We are the applicants of the above-identified patent application and coinventors of the subject matter described and claimed therein.
2. Prior to March 9, 2001, we completed the invention described and claimed in the subject application, in this country. The following set of facts demonstrate conception and reduction to practice of the subject matter of the present invention prior to March 9, 2001, the filing date of Tan et al. (US2002/012755A1).
3. Prior to March 9, 2001, Matthew R. Muenster prepared a vector comprising an ampicillin resistance (AmpR) gene with the native signal sequence deleted as a backbone vector for cloning the vector of the present invention. A copy of the relevant notebook data pages is attached as Exhibit A. The dates from Exhibit A are redacted.
4. Prior to March 9, 2001, Matthew R. Muenster prepared a vector comprising genes encoding known secreted proteins, e.g. leptin, directionally cloned upstream of the AmpR gene. Matthew R. Muenster shows that host cells transformed with this vector survived on